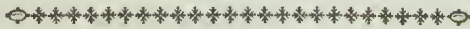


LACERTA MONITOR.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Corpus tetrapodum, caudatum, nudum.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 359.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

LACERTA cauda carinata, corpore mutico
maculis ocellatis.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 360.

Seba. Mus. vol. 1. t. 97. *Fig.* 2.

————— vol. 1. t. 94. *Fig.* 1. 2.

————— vol. 2. t. 30. *Fig.* 2. & tab. 49. *Fig.* 2.

————— vol. 2. t. 86. *Fig.* 2.

Nomen Monitor huic Lacertæ datum est, quoniam, (quod valde dubium videtur,) crocodilo viso, clamorem argutum præ metu tollere dicitur; hoc modo viatores de monstro isto appropinquante haud raro admonens.

In magnam molem sæpe crescit Monitor, et gracili est forma, caudam habens longissimam. Color ejus communis est niger, albo variatus. Variationes albæ in fascias transversas macularum circularium centro nigro dispositæ sunt, et inter has fascias aliæ plerumque occurrunt angustæ, seu velut striatæ. Variationes super caudam, non, ut in reliquo corpore, ad normam, fed

sed velut temere et fortuito positæ videntur. Crura pedesque albo transverse maculata sunt. In abdomine color albus dominatur, striis maculisque nigris plus minus notatus. Interdum coloribus variat hæc species: color ejus nempe primarius est fuscus, aut subferrugineus, potius quam niger.

Elegans hæc Lacerta in Indiæ Orientalis simul ac Americæ partibus Australioribus nascitur.

London. Published by J. P. Neill & Co. 1838. Faintly visible text at the top of the page, likely a title or publisher's information.

1. 11



THE
MONITOR LIZARD.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Body four-footed, tailed, naked.

Lin. Syst. Nat.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

BLACK LIZARD, marked with transverse bands of ocellated white spots.

This species of Lizard has obtained the name of Monitor, from a circumstance which seems of very doubtful authority. It is pretended that on sight of the crocodile, it sets up a loud and shrill cry through fear, and thus frequently warns travellers of the vicinity of that formidable creature. It grows to a considerable size, and is of a very slender make, and the tail is extremely long. The general colour of the animal is black and white; the black forming the ground-colour, and the white the variegations, which are disposed in transverse bands of annulated spots with black centres, and between these bands are generally some narrowish stripes of white. On the tail the variegations are less regular than on the body. The legs and feet are spotted transversely with white. On the belly the white prevails, which is marked more or less with

with transverse streaks and spots of black. Sometimes this animal varies in colour; the ground being rather brown or ferruginous than black.

This elegant Lizard is found both in the East-Indies, and in the Southern parts of America.